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MILITARY STRIFE IN BALKANS SUBSIDING

While the Diplomats in Greece and Russia are Engaged in New Deals

GERMANS ARE PREPARING NEW OFFENSIVES

At Least They Are Concentrating Forces on Both the Eastern and Western Fronts, Supposedly to Strike When Conditions are Propitious—A Big Battle is in Progress in the Valley of the Albanian or Black Drin River Between the Serbians and Bulgarians—It is Said the Bulgarians Found the Serbs Reformed and Were Driven Back.

London, Dec. 17, 10 p. m.—While the diplomats in Greece and Rumania are engaged in new deals which will decide the next step in the Balkan operations, there is increasing evidence that the Germans, ever-creative, are preparing new strokes on both the eastern and western fronts, or at least a concentration of their forces to strike when conditions are propitious.

Despatches from Petrograd note German activity particularly in the Dvinsk district, which would accord with the German ambition to reach the line of the Dvina river, while accounts from neutral countries mention a continued movement of men and guns to the west. In the latter theater of operations it seems only a question at which points the offensive is to be taken.

Many persons believe that the Germans have found the lines in Flanders and Arras too hard to crack, and are contemplating a move in the Saint Mihiel region, where their line penetrates to the river Meuse, and where there has been considerable activity during the last few days. The only thing argued against this is that

the river has been at flood, and the French have been systematically destroying the bridges as they were rebuilt. Thus far, however, there has been little more doing than the usual mining and bombing operations and aerial fighting in the west.

In the Balkans military operations are temporarily at a standstill, except in Montenegro and Albania, where the Austrians and Bulgarians are carrying on mountain warfare against King Nicholas' troops and the Serbians. A big battle is in progress in the valley of the Albanian or Black Drin River between the Serbians and Bulgarians. At last reports no decision had been reached in the fighting. It is said, however, that the Bulgarians, who crossed the river found the Serbs had been reformed and were driven back with heavy losses.

The Serbian counter-attacks may have been made possible by supplies having reached them from the Italians who landed on the Albanian coast and who are trying to open communication with the Serbians through that country. The Italians, it is understood, already have landed eighty thousand men.

Cabled Paragraphs

Death of Earl de la Warr.
London, Dec. 17, 8 p. m.—Earl de la Warr died yesterday at Messina from rheumatic fever followed by pneumonia. He had been serving in the Dardanelles.

A Serious Revolt of Indians in Peru.
Lima, Peru, Dec. 17.—A serious revolt of Indians in the department of Puno is reported. The prefect of the department in a message to officials here states that he is going to the scene of revolt and hopes to arrange for a peaceful termination of the outbreak.

Albert Stanley Dead.
London, Dec. 17, 9 p. m.—Albert Stanley, member of the house of commons from Staffordshire, North-west, died today at Northampton. Mr. Stanley was born in 1862. At the time of his death he was secretary of the Midland Mines Federation, and a member of the joint conciliation board of coal owners and miners. He was elected to the house of commons in 1907 as a labor member.

MILITARY PREPAREDNESS DEBATED IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Gardner Suggests Investigation of William Jennings Bryan.
Washington, Dec. 17.—Speeches for and against extensive military preparedness programs were made in the house today by two republicans, Representative Augustus P. Gardner of Massachusetts and Frank Mitchell of Wyoming.

Mr. Gardner said he had not decided which preparedness plan he would support, but that as a member of the ways and means committee, he would vote for an appropriation of \$100,000,000. He had heard, he said, that certain democrats on the committee would oppose bills to finance army and navy increases.

"If anybody thinks," he shouted, "that by taking these democrats who are opposed to the increase and adding them to the republican members, they can say 'We will not vote for anything except an increase in the tariff' they have got to count without Augustus."

Referring to proposed investigations of organizations for and against preparedness, Mr. Gardner declared that the committee would not take on full duty, should investigate William Jennings Bryan, among others to determine whether he was making money out of his preparedness work.

Reading from President Wilson's recent address to congress and one of the statements made by Mr. Gardner, he marked that the executive's views had changed greatly regarding preparedness.

"If the programme now before us had been presented a year ago, it would have been condemned in unmeasured terms by the president himself," he said. "But it has been presented up to now by a republican it would have been called outrageous by all persons calling themselves democrats and many republicans as well."

He argued that the country needed coast defenses, not battleships.

A SECOND, MORE DRASTIC NOTE FOR AUSTRIA

Will Vigorously Renew the Demands Made in the First Communication.
Washington, Dec. 17.—The United States prepared late today to dispatch a second note to Austria-Hungary on the sinking of the Italian steamship *Regina Maria* in the Adriatic.

CONGRESS ADJOURNED FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

Senate Adopted Extension of Emergency Tax by Strict Party Vote.
Washington, Dec. 17.—Congress adjourned tonight for the Christmas holidays after the senate had adopted the joint resolution which declares the emergency revenue law one year, or until resolution after the next session of congress, by a vote of 45 to 23, democrats supporting it solidly and republicans exclusively opposing it.

ONE OF MOST PROSPEROUS YEARS IN TEA INDUSTRY

India's Crop Has Broken All Previous Records.
London, Dec. 17.—The tea season just closed has been one of the most prosperous years in the history of the industry. The quantity exported during the twelve months, by the various producing countries, increased from 754 to 802 million pounds.

24 DELEGATES ARRIVE FROM SOUTH AMERICA

To Represent Their Countries at Second Pan-American Scientific Congress.
New York, Dec. 17.—Twenty-four delegates from Uruguay, Argentina and Brazil, who will represent their countries at the second Pan-American scientific congress to be held in Washington beginning December 27, reached here today on the steamship *Vestris* from South American ports.

SEVERE WIND STORM SWEEP ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI

Two Negro Women Killed at Meridian—Many Buildings Damaged.
Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 17.—A severe wind storm today swept through central Alabama and Mississippi, killing two negro women at Meridian and damaging many buildings there, at Cullman, Miss., and in Montgomery. The damage in Montgomery is estimated at \$50,000. Telegraph wires into Quitman, Miss., were down late today.

600 Horses Perish in the North River

BARGE SANK WHILE THEY WERE BEING TRANSFERRED.

AVERAGE VALUE \$200

Were Being Put Aboard Steamer Anglo-Californian to Be Taken to Brest, France, for the Use of the Allied Armies.

New York, Dec. 17.—Nearly 600 horses valued at an average of \$200 each, consigned to Brest, France, for the use of the allied armies, were drowned in the North river this afternoon when a barge sprang a leak and sank. The animals were to be

Five Killed in Collision on B & O

BETWEEN AN ACCOMMODATION TRAIN AND EMPTY EXPRESS.

DENSE FOG THE CAUSE

All Three Coaches of the Accommodation Train Were Crushed and the Engine Hurled Down an Embankment.

Chester, Pa., Dec. 17.—Five persons were killed and eleven injured, one probably fatally, in a rear-end collision between an accommodation train bound from Wilmington to Chester and a train of empty express cars on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad tonight at

Revelations of Experience Worthy of Attention

When those of experience talk it is well to lend an attentive ear. R. J. Reynolds, president of the company which bears his name, owes the success that he has made in business in a large degree to advertising and of it he says: "Newspapers are unquestionably the standard form of advertising."

"Newspapers are good advertising mediums or this company would have found it out before it began investing hundreds of thousands of dollars in their columns annually."

"A manufacturer who has a good product and will tell the truth about it in the daily newspapers will make an unequalled success."

"It would be hard to depreciate the value of the newspaper as an advertising medium."

It makes no difference whether it is a manufacturer or a merchant whose business is restricted to certain limits, the same facts hold true and when such service is being sought the best is the cheapest. That is what The Bulletin affords every day to its advertisers.

In the past week the following matter has appeared in its columns:

Bulletin	Telegraph	Local	General	Total
Saturday, Dec. 11..	82	145	975	1202
Monday, Dec. 13..	75	218	272	565
Tuesday, Dec. 14..	121	137	166	424
Wednesday, Dec. 15..	101	107	165	373
Thursday, Dec. 16..	90	100	290	480
Friday, Dec. 17..	99	98	192	389
Totals	568	805	2060	3433

WHITE STAR LINE AGREES TO PAY \$664,000 TITANIC CLAIMS.

Must Be Acted Upon Before December 30 to Become Operative.
New York, Dec. 17.—The White Star line has agreed to pay \$664,000 in settlement of all claims arising from the sinking of the Titanic on April 15, 1912, when more than 1,500 persons were drowned.

DISAPPEARANCE OF THE BILLARD BOOKS

Government Trying to Implicate Edward Robbins.
New York, Dec. 17.—Testimony intended to show that Edward D. Robbins, former counsel of the United States government, had no part in the disappearance of the billiard books and assets of the Billiard company, and tried to prevent them from being produced before the Interstate Commerce commission and the grand jury, was presented by the government today in the case against Robbins and ten other former directors of the road on trial for a criminal violation of the Sherman law.

EPIDEMIC OF CHOLERA IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Ten Thousand Deaths Within the Past Year.
Washington, Dec. 17.—Because native Philippine health officers failed to cope with an epidemic of cholera in the islands, within the last year there were 10,000 deaths, Capt. R. C. Heller, head of the army medical corps told the senate Philippine committee today. Only nine cases, he said, had come to the direct attention of the army physicians, and assistance of the Americans was not welcomed by the native officers.

THIRTY FOOT RISE IN THE KENTUCKY RIVER

Following Continuous Rains for the Past 36 Hours.
Lexington, Ky., Dec. 17.—A 30-foot rise in the Kentucky river at Jackson, following heavy rains which have been continuous for the last 36 hours, was reported in a message received here today. The message said that all mountain streams were at flood tide and rising rapidly and that further rains would endanger many small villages.

GEN. VILLA'S CHIEFTAINS ARE DESERTING HIM

With a View to Immediate Surrender to the Constitutional Government.
Washington, Dec. 17.—Border advisers to the Mexican embassy here today said that the Villa chieftains in conference at Chihuahua had announced an intention "to eliminate Francisco Villa forthwith, with a view to their own immediate surrender to the constitutional government."

Condensed Telegrams

The steamship *Orduna* arrived at Liverpool from New York.

Kaiser Wilhelm personally decorated a number of soldiers at Vilna, Russia.

Persian merchants have started a boycott against English and Russian goods.

Subscriptions to the fund of the Boy Scouts of America now amount to \$100,522.

Former Senator Eugene Hale, of Maine, is seriously ill of paralysis at Washington.

Two thousand residents of Philadelphia enrolled in the National Security league.

Germany is reported to be negotiating a loan with Swiss banks to improve exchange.

The National Bank of Cuba deposited in the treasury office \$1,000,000 in French gold coin.

The submarine K-8, which stranded in Honolulu harbor, was floated apparently undamaged.

British shipping circles predict the closing of the Suez canal to the commerce of all nations.

An embargo on the export of hay to the United States was declared by the Canadian government.

King Peter of Serbia is on his way to Italy, where he will take refuge at the royal villa at Caserta.

Senator Smith of Georgia introduced a bill to establish a national board of censors for motion pictures.

An order for 85,000 tons of steel rails was received from the French government by the Pennsylvania Steel Co.

The Cuba railroad has placed an order for ten 10-wheel locomotives with the American Locomotive company.

German and Austrian residents at Sarajevo, Greece, are preparing to depart, fearing violence from the allied troops.

All the present defacto consuls of the Carranza government have been officially recognized by the United States.

All renters of safe deposit vaults in the German Reichsbank are required to sign a statement that they are not using gold.

Brig-Gen. Jephthah Garrard of the Ohio volunteer infantry during the Civil war died at his home at Cincinnati, aged 80.

Foreign-built vessels admitted to American registry since June 30 last, number 23 vessels, with a total tonnage of 60,354.

Many women and children were driven into the street by a fire in a tenement district on South Water street, New Bedford.

The Norwegian steamer *Marie de Gloeg*, which left New York December 1, is reported disabled and endeavoring to make Bermuda.

The Greek steamers *Kate* and *Saint Dimicos*, detained at Malta by the British, were released. They are bound for New York from Greek ports.

Jesse Seligman, a wealthy leather manufacturer of Gloversville, N. Y., shot and killed his wife, and then himself at their home at Gloversville.

General Wille, commander-in-chief of the Swiss army, died at Bern, Switzerland, after a long illness.

Philip Hart, a New York bartender, pulled off his coat in court and challenged Magistrate McQuade to a fight. He was sent to Bellevue for observation.

U. S. Army and Coast Defenses

THE LATTER THE MOST FORMIDABLE IN THE WORLD.

WAR BUREAU REPORTS

Full Strength of Army on June 30 Last Was 105,993 Officers and Men—Militia 21,571 Below the Required Strength.

Washington, Dec. 17.—War department bureau reports made public tonight disclose the following facts about the army of the United States and its coast defenses.

Formidable Coast Defenses.
The system of coast defenses is "the most formidable in the world," but is short 150 officers and 10,825 men of the regular establishment and 271 officers and 9,891 men of the national guard to man all four main line defenses. Congress has appropriated \$175,000,000 to establish the present system, but batteries which cost \$41,000,000 are now without trained personnel to man them.

Batteries Recommended.
Batteries of 16-inch, 50 calibre guns are recommended as the primary armament of all major forts in order that enemy ships may be kept at great distance. Mobile howitzer batteries of 16-inch, 17-inch or even larger guns are used to supplement the permanent forts, the howitzers to be fired from railroad cars or motor trucks.

Full Strength of Army 105,993.
The full strength of the army on June 30 last was 105,993 officers and men, 68,253 of whom were in the United States, 14,840 of this number being on duty on or near the Mexican border. Vacancies in the enlisted force were reduced from 2,573 in 1914 to 1,756, the year having seen 48,812 recruits, of whom nearly 100,000 per cent were born in the United States.

Organized Militia 129,357.
On October 1 the full strength of the organized militia was 8,000 officers and 120,693 men, just 21,571 below required enlisted strength of the organization. Inspecting officers estimate it would require from two to twelve months to put the militia in the field in the federal service.

32,313 Students Enrolled.
There were 32,313 students enrolled in 88 schools having military courses and graduates from these schools since 1905 number 33,430.

The coast artillery established scores of 59 per cent hits with 10 inch guns and 52 per cent hits with 12-inch guns at 5,000 yards range as against 25 per cent and 20 per cent respectively in 1913; at 10,000 yards the scores were 26 per cent with the tens and 19 per cent with the twelves as against 12 and 14 per cent in 1913.

Army Death Rate 4.40.
The army death rate was 4.40 compared with 5.15 the year before. There were only seven cases of typhoid fever in 1915. Inspecting officers estimate it would require from two to twelve months to put the militia in the field in the federal service.

BOMB THROWN INTO CHINESE NEWSPAPER BUILDING

Which Pushed Propaganda for Restoration of Monarchy.
Shanghai, China, Dec. 17.—A bomb was thrown tonight at the building of the *Asiatic Daily News*, a newspaper published in the Chinese language which was launched last September for the purpose of pushing the propaganda for restoration of the monarchy. The bomb, which apparently was thrown from the roof of a house across the street, exploded on the balcony of the building. The damage was small and there were no casualties.

EASTERN FREIGHT EMBARGO WILL AFFECT NORTHWEST

May Mean a Tieup of Traffic for a Protracted Period.
Duluth, Minn., Dec. 17.—The freight embargo in force on eastern railroads is likely to interfere seriously with railroad traffic in the northwest, according to a statement issued today by E. B. Ober, general freight agent of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad.

The statement said: "The grain embargo is more serious than many persons suppose. Until a recent date the embargo has been chiefly confined to export of grain, but now the congestion is so great that the embargo is being spread over domestic shipments. This may mean a tieup that may exist for a protracted period."

FORBIDDING SALE OF LIQUOR IN MEXICO

Ninety Day Dry Spell in Force in Mexican Capital.
Guatemala, Dec. 17.—The sale of alcoholic liquors in Mexico City has been forbidden for 90 days by a decree issued yesterday by the governor of the federal district, according to advice reaching the Mexican consulate here today. The measure was taken to prevent the spread of typhus in the capital.

CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE

Washington, Dec. 17.—The senate today confirmed the nominations of Frank Lyon Polk of New York as counselor of the state department; William W. Russell, of the District of Columbia, as minister to the Dominican republic; and James L. Curtis, of New York, as minister to Liberia.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMSHIPS

Kirkwall, Dec. 14.—Arrived, steamer *Stockholm*, Gathenburg for New York.

Liverpool, Dec. 16.—Arrived, steamer *Adriatic*, New York. Sailed, steamer *Lapland*, New York.